VOL. VII. No. 30
FIVE CENTS

The Suffragist

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1919

Drawn by Nina E. Allender

The Call for Help

National Woman's Party

(Incorporated, 1913)

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Notes of the Week

British Enfranchisement Restrictions Remain

THE promised bill to take the place of the Woman's Emancipation bill which was recently defeated by the administration forces in the British Parliament has passed two readings in the House of Lords. The former bill which was introduced by a labour member would have given to women over thirty the franchise on the same terms as men. The government bill does not change the franchise nor does it remove the disqualifications excluding women from the higher ranks of the civil service. It contains a clause entitling peeresses in their own right to sit in the House of Lords. This clause was included only as a concession to some factions. It is announced that this clause will probably be defeated before the bill is finally passed. The British Government's promises to the women to replace the Emancipation Bill by one equally good have not materialized, it appears.

French Suffrage Deputations

BEFORE the defeat of the suffrage bill in the committee of the French Senate a committee of women spoke before the Senate. French Senators gave as reasons for postponing suffrage—the strikes, the peace treaty, the law for electoral reform. The communication read to the Senate by the women stated that women who have been granted the franchise in other countries have specialised in childhood problems, hygiene, education, and morality. The French women wish also to work for these things with full political power. They wish also to help in the immediate reorganization of the country. They do not wish to suffer the humiliation of being denied what has been given women of other countries.

Besides the delegation from the suffrage societies which waited upon the Senate there was one of women workers, one of war widows, and a possible one from Alsace Lorraine.

Roumanian Suffrage Propaganda

IN Roumania where the women are not allowed to make street speeches for suffrage, they are selling their paper called the "Rights of Women" on the streets. They find this a useful method of spreading propaganda as it was found to be also in this country. The fact that in Bessarabia and Transylvania, now reunited with Roumania, women have the vote is a useful argument in urging the emancipation of all Roumanian women. One suffrage society is seeking the vote for the educated women only and not for the working women or the peasants. The larger and more influential society is working for suffrage for all women.

Fluctuating Minimums

THERE are now minimum wage laws for women in twelve states in addition to the District of Columbia. The figures in the various states vary considerably.

California—$13.50 a week in fruit and vegetable canneries and laundries.

Kansas—$8.50 a week in shops and laundries. $11 a week in factories.

Massachusetts—$9 a week in clothing industry. $10 a week in millinery trade. $8.50 a week in shops. $8 a week in laundries.

Minnesota—$9 a week in mercantile establishments and offices in large cities. $8.50 a week in same employment in smaller cities. $8 a week in same employment in towns. 25 cents a week less for factory work in each case.

Oregon—$48 a month in offices. $11 a week in shops. $11.65 a week for women in factories or laundries and telephone and telegraph operators, etc.

Washington—$13.50 a week for all trades during the war.

The other states where there is a minimum for women are Arkansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin. The lowest figure given for each state is of course the minimum. The politically appointed boards which determine how much it takes for a women to live upon in health and reasonable comfort have in no case, it appears, made the mistake of being too generous.

German Women Sharing in Government

SIX months after the granting of suffrage to German women, and four months after they were able to make use of the vote shows thirty-eight women members of the National Assembly, eighty women on the legislative bodies of the various federal states, and several hundred women town councillors. More than half these women are Social Democrats.

The Reichsverband, the suffrage society is engaged in a lively debate whether to dissolve or to turn into a society for the political education of women.

Anti-Suffragists in New Jersey Bill

THE anti-suffrage society of New Jersey is endeavoring to secure a referendum to the men of the state on the question of ratifying the suffrage amendment.

The Death of Miss Josephine C. Locke

IN the death of Miss Josephine C. Locke, of Chicago, on July 2, 1919, the cause of woman suffrage loses a staunch supporter and a very valued and valuable friend. Miss Locke was by profession a teacher; she was always much interested in the freedom of women. Although she was sixty-five years old at the time, she took part in the march of suffragists around the White House in March, 1916—with no thought of giving up on account of the rain and sleet.

British Cooperative Movement

THE president of the Woman's Cooperative Guild of Great Britain, Mrs. Eleanor Barton, was recently in this country as a representative to the Child Welfare Conference of the Children's Bureau. In an interview about the Cooperative Guild Mrs. Barton said that it is composed of 30,000 women, members of working class families and represents pratically every trade in the country, because the members are the wives and mothers of the men and boys who work in all trades. The object of the Guild was originally merely to buy cooperatively and to bring the consumer in touch with the producer so that the former might work for reforms for the latter as well as for better prices for the consumer. The scope of the society has now widened greatly. Whereas the members in their meetings formerly devoted their time to a discussion of domestic problems only, they began to consider local affairs, from that they took up national issues and now they discuss international questions and take positions in regard to them.

These women have taken an active part in the labor fight by putting the power of their organization back of demands by women for better wages and working conditions.

Italian Women and Franchise

THE Italian women are waiting eagerly this month for an electoral reform bill which will create a situation making it possible to introduce a woman suffrage bill as a relative issue.

Should this bill be passed immediately it will give the women of Italy the right to take part in the coming parliamentary elections next month.

There is, however, the feeling that an attempt will be made to amend any suffrage bill so that it will not effect this year's elections.

The Italian women realize that this will come from the parties which have not time to organize thoroughly. The women will, however, line up all their force for the passage of their bill without the contemplated amendment.

Philadelphia Women on Citizenship Committee

A COMMITTEE of one hundred citizens of Philadelphia has been formed to select an independent candidate for mayor of the city. The committee includes seven women. The women will be able to vote for the candidate they help to select if twenty-five more states ratify the suffrage amendment by November 4.

THE NATIONAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

Joint resolution (H. J. Res. 1) proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by legislatures of three-fourths of the several states:

"ARTICLE.—The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

By Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1917, Favorable majority.
1919, Unanimously favorably.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916, Without recommendation.
1917, Without recommendation.
1918, Favorable majority.
1919, Favorable majority.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 25 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).
March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.
October 1, 1918, yeas 54, nays 30, failing by 2 ot the two-thirds vote.
February 10, 1919, yeas 55, nays 29, failing by one of the necessary two-thirds vote.
June 4, 1919, yeas 56, nays 25, passing by 2 votes over necessary two-thirds majority.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.
January 10, 1918. Yeas 274, nays 136, passing by one vote over necessary two-thirds majority.
May 21, 1919. Yeas 304, nays 89, passing by 42 votes over necessary two-thirds majority.

RATIFICATION BY STATES

1 Wisconsin, June 10, 1919
House Vote 54 to 2
Senate Vote 24 to 1

2 Michigan, June 10, 1919
Both Houses Unanimous

3 Kansas, June 16, 1919
Both Houses Unanimous

4 Ohio. June 16, 1919
House Vote 73 to 6
Senate Vote 27 to 3

5 New York, June 6, 1919
Both Houses Unanimous

6 Illinois, June 17, 1919
House vote 133 to 4
Senate Vote unanimous

7 Pennsylvania, June 24, 1919
House Vote 153 to 44
Senate Vote 32 to 6

8 Massachusetts, June 25, 1919
House Vote 185 to 47
Senate Vote 34 to 5

9 Texas, June 28, 1919
House Vote 96 to 21
Senate Vote Unanimous

10 Iowa, July 2, 1919
House Vote 95 to 5
Senate Vote Unanimous

11 Missouri, July 3, 1919
House Vote 125 to 4
Senate Vote 28 to 3

The Suffragist

AUGUST 2, 1919 VOL. VII. No. 30

Issued Weekly by National Woman's Party
14 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.
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Columbian Printing Company, Inc., Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter, Nov. 14, 1913, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under act of March 3,1879

Special Sessions and the Franchise for Soldiers

THE demand for special sessions of state legislatures for the purpose of immediate ratification of the suffrage amendment has raised an unwonted excitement over the country. National and state Party Committees, Governors, and other men in high state or party positions are bestirring themselves to urge special sessions in the states and sections and for the good of the party in which they are interested. Other governors and politicians are decrying the movement and deprecating the necessity. These latter clamor greatly about the expense and trouble of special sessions, and continue to clamor even after disinterested citizens offer to bear the expense, or legislators agree to forego their pay or mileage. They denounce the women who are making these "absurd" requests as "impatient," "irrational," "totally unreasonable in their demands."

HAS there ever been a time when the political expression of any group of men was even temporarily at stake, that any lengths seemed too far to go in order to remedy that situation and leave man's right to suffrage unimpaired? Has the question of expense or of political expediency ever impeded whatever action men deemed it necessary to undertake for the accomplishment of their purpose?

TAKE, for instance, the latest record of such a case—with reference to franchise for soldiers. In 1916 when the men of the National Guard units were concentrated on the Mexican Border, and later when the draft and the volunteer service took men overseas to fight in France—even when only a small proportion of the male voting strength of the United States was as yet thus threatened and these men deprived for the time being of their right of franchise—did we hear any objections raised to the haste with which provisions were made for their participation in the elections "back home?" It did not then seem too much to ask of the honorable gentlemen who are now opposing immediate ratification, that the deplorable situation be rectified immediately. It did not even create a murmur when it was proposed that certain states whose legislatures were not in regular session should call special sessions for action on the resolution permitting soldiers to vote in all elections while on the Mexican Border; even such states, among others, as Minnesota and Wisconsin, which had sent but small quotas of men to the Rio Grande. Nor was there any astonishment exhibited later when other states held special sessions to arrange for the franchise of men in service overseas—such states as Connecticut, Delaware, Arizona, South Dakota, and others of which the ones mentioned are only typical.

IT is quite as just, quite as necessary, quite as politically expedient, even, and surely no whit more an "outrageous demand," that enough state legislatures should hold special sessions immediately in order to complete the enfranchisement of millions of American women before the Autumn elections.

The Ratification Snowball

By Annie G. Porritt

THERE is one aspect of the process of ratification of the federal suffrage amendment which has perhaps not received as much attention as it deserves from those opponents who still imagine that votes for women can be averted. This is that each state that ratifies adds momentum to the process, and makes easier and more certain the ratification by other states. The reasons for this are two-fold, each reason by itself of immense importance. Taken together it will be seen that on account of them speedy ratification becomes more certain and inevitable with each of the states that comes in.

When the suffrage amendment was first pushed by the National Woman's Party, it was taken as assured that the first states to ratify would be the states of the far west where woman suffrage has been longest in operation. It was also assumed that the example of these states would count for little with the great states of the east and middle, and that the fact that several states had ratified would make little impression on the legislatures of other states. Quite the contrary has proved to be the case. The states that were first to ratify were big and important states, some of them states where women had not been given any suffrage rights at all—like Pennsylvania—and some of them states where these rights were very scanty as in Massachusetts and Ohio.

The fact that these states have ratified necessarily exerts an enormous influence over the other states. There is no legislature that can disregard the action of the men of all parties in these great metropolitan states. The Democrats of the South, the Republicans of New England, and both Republicans and Democrats of the Middle West must sit up and take notice when they read the division lists on the ratification resolution in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas and the other nine states that have already acted. Every new state that comes in strengthens the forces of the suffragists and weakens the power of the opposition.

But there is also another reason why every state that ratifies makes more certain ratification by the other states. This is because with ratification completed the suffrage workers of that state are released from local work and made available for work in other states. The suffrage funds of the state also become available for national work, and as the workers are naturally not satisfied with local ratification, which is useless until thirty-six states have acted, there is no cessation in the flow of money into suffrage treasuries, so long as money is needed for campaigns in any states in the Union.

The vast importance of ratification in New York, Massachusetts and Ohio thus becomes obvious. New York and Massachusetts were the headquarters of the suffrage movement from the earliest days of the struggle. Of recent years New York has spent more money on woman suffrage than any other state—than any other two or three states combined. The generosity of the New York suffragists has been in proportion to their greater resources, and New York money has gone freely into the treasury of the National Woman's Party to help in all the agitation at Washington, when it was necessary to bring pressure to bear on Congress. The New York women are not going to give up now that the race is nearly won, and if money is needed for campaigns in any states where legislatures have to be made to see the light, there will be money available from the states where ratification is completed and there is no more need for local expenditure on suffrage.

And it is much more than money that is being thus released. The suffrage workers who have helped in the campaigns for ratification in the eleven states which have now acted are also freed from local work and ready to throw their energies into other states. Experience has long proved that any state can be won for suffrage if enough workers are available. This is true even for the tremendously laborious task of fighting a state constitutional amendment referendum. It is still more true when only the Senate and Representatives of the State Legislature are needed Education is all that is necessary and each state that ratifies liberates forces for education which can be used just where they are most needed.

he Alabama Game

ARE the leaders in the movement to defeat the ratification of the woman suffrage amendment not acting under cover? Are they confiding to us the real reasons for their strenuous and hysterical opposition to a measure which has the endorsement of the Democratic Party, so far as it is with the recommendations of the National Committee as expressed in the resolutions.

The resolutions are strong, clear as a bell, leaving no doubt of the committee's anxiety that Alabama, and all Democratic states, should act promptly and favorably.

One among the many reasons that leads to the conclusion that the opposition is acting under cover are the arguments used against the amendment. Many, if not all, of them are simply absurd and should not be taken seriously. For instance, they tell us loudly and hysterically that Susan B. Anthony, who was the author of the amendment, has said some ugly and mean things about the South. Of course, they do not say that those rantings were fifty years ago, when sectional bitterness ran high. But of course, that does not affect the amendment. The question is, is the amendment right or wrong? Are women entitled to suffrage or are they not?

But, as The Journal has asked, are the leaders of the opposition to ratification of the amendment acting under cover? Have they not raised false issues to mislead the legislature and the people? Is not the real reason clear—clear as the noon day sun? Are they not trying to save the political scalp of Oscar Underwood, federal senator from Alabama, who voted against the suffrage amendment, voted against prohibition, seemingly and keeping himself out of touch with practically everybody and everything in his state but the privileged few? And if they succeed in their effort to defeat ratification of the amendment will they not immediately come from under cover, and will exultantly exclaim:
"I told you so; it's first blood for Underwood in the Alabama senatorial fight!" And then aside, "Didn't we fool them!"

Why does The Journal come to this conclusion? Is there an Underwood supporter, is there an anti-prohibitionist, in either braneh of the legislature who is not against the suffrage amendment?

This is a Democratic measure. No one can escape that fact. No Democrat can shirk his responsibility.

But then there is another and very interesting and important national political view to take of the question of ratification.

As shown by a map published in The Journal last Sunday, fifteen states already give complete suffrage to women on equal terms with men; and it was further shown that fifteen and a half million of them live in states that have given them the right to vote for the next president; and concerning this feature of the problem involved, we should remember that Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, said, "At least we Democrats cannot deny that she knew what she was about when it was largely due to the vote of the women in the Western States that made possible the election of President Wilson."

Shall the women of Alabama and the next presidency be sacrificed to save Underwood's political scalp? Let the Alabama legislators be courageous and chivalric enough to answer and let that answer be in the negative.—Montgomery, Ala., Journal, July 17, 1919.

The Democratic Party's

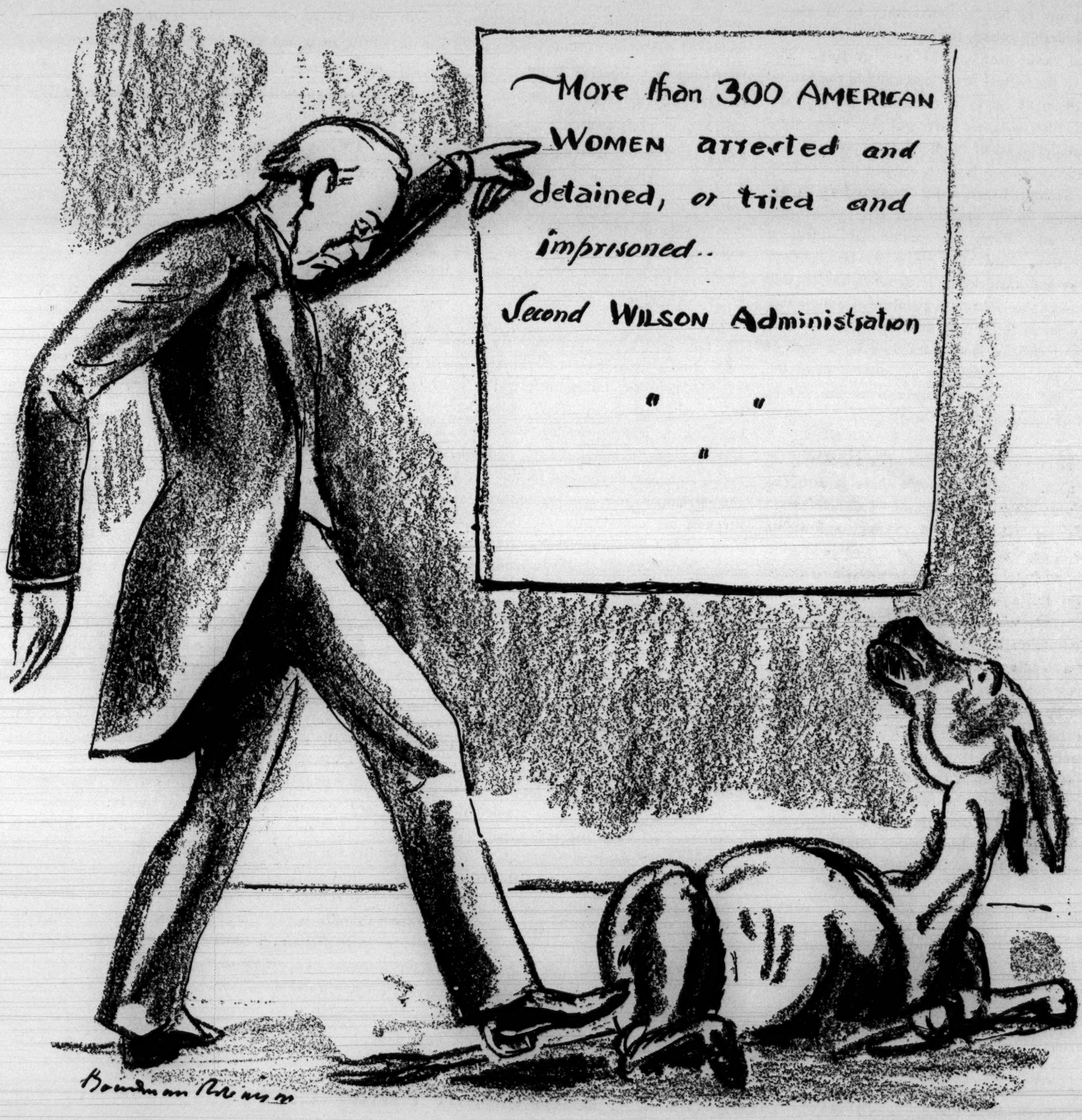
This is Their Record in Congress

What Will be the Record for the F

What Will the Democratic Party D

Georgia and Alabama are a B B

rt's Record on Suffrage


More than 300 AMERICAN WOMEN arrested and detained, or tried and imprisoned..
Second WILSON Administration
" "
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Boardman Robinson

Drawn by Boardman Robinson

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Pa Do About Ratification?
B Beginning

Georgia and Alabama Defeat Ratification

After a long, hard fight, and after the earnest efforts of those in the state who were honestly favorable to the ratification of the amendment and who desired the Democratic Party not to lose the advantage to be gained by favorable action, the Georgia legislature defeated ratification on the 24th of July. The vote in the Senate of 39 to 10, and in the House of 118 to 29, gives a striking picture of the stand of Democratic Party politics in that state on this question of fundamental democracy.

The ratification leaders, among them noticeably Senator Elder, made every effort to delay action for the present and save the Georgia Democratic Party the name of defeating ratification. But this effort at last proved useless and ratification is dead so far as this session of the Georgia legislature is concerned. Just prior to the action on the ratification resolution itself, the House defeated by a vote of 113 to 52 a resolution for postponement of the issue, and this was recognized as the deathknell of the big question itself.

THE situation in Alabama is absolutely at a standstill. Although there is still the possibility of a reversal of the defeat in the Senate last week, and although suffragists are still on the spot, there seems no indication of immediate action. Democratic leaders assure suffrage leaders that there is yet hope, but what hope can suffragists see in a situation which is nothing more nor less than a deadlock, and where not the least discernible activity is taking place? If the Democratic Party feels that it can yet save Alabama for ratification, let it take steps to make that a surety. There is at present no indication that activity, when it comes, will be favorable. It is thought that the Senate may reverse itself, and that if it does the House will be certain to take favorable action, but there is at present no evidence that this will ever take place.

The only possible construction that suffragists can put upon the situation in Alabama is that here we have one more state in which the and loose with the cause of ratification only to defeat it in the end.

IS the Democratic Party going to improve upon its record with regard to the suffrage question, or is it not? Is it going to wake up to a sense of opportunities neglected during its two-term failure to champion the cause of woman's democracy while that cause was in its hands in Congress? Will it, as a national party, endeavor now to speed the triumphant cause to an early and final goal, or will it neglect this opportunity also, and continue in that obstinate opposition to the Federal Suffrage Amendment, an opposition which can only temporarily put off the day of universal equal suffrage, and will certainly succeed in doing material harm to the Party's chances for national dominance in 1920?

THE women of this country know well enough what has been the attitude of the Democratic Party during the first two terms of President Wilson's Administration—know with what difficulty President Wilson was won over to speak for the Federal Amendment, and how in the end he did not speak or act strongly enough to put the measure through his own Congress. They know that they do not have the Democrats to thank for the submission of their amendment to the states, notwithstanding the fact that both parties would like to claim that credit. They know this past history; the question is—what sort of new history are the Democrats going to make? They have the opportunity now to help in a very great way by speeding ratification through those states where they are in control, and of thus helping enable women to use that privilege which the United States Congress of June 1919 voted she should be given. Are they going to seize this opportunity to redeem themselves in the eyes of the voting womanhood of America?

The recent example of Georgia and Alabama, the most Democratic of Democratic Southern States, does not give any very hopeful answer.

In May, 1919, the Democratic National Committee, in assembly at Chicago, Illinois, seeing that the new Republican Senate of the United States was shortly to pass the long-disputed Susan B. Anthony Amendment for submission to the state legislatures, passed a resolution, as was recorded in The Suffragist of June 7, 1919, in which they urged speedy Democratic action upon this amendment, even to the calling of special sessions for ratification in the states.

This resolution passed by the Democratic National Committee reads as follows:

"Whereas, the Democratic Committee is committed to the just cause of woman suffrage, and

"Whereas, it now seems certain that the Federal amendment granting suffrage to women will within a few days pass the United States Senate, and

"Whereas, the Democratic Party earnestly desires that women of all states may vote in the election of 1920,

"Therefore, be it resolved, by the Democratic National Committee that it urge the calling of special sessions of state legislatures wherever necessary to ratify said amendment."

The resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted.

THIS resolution is plain enough indication of the importance which the Committee attaches to the ratification of the suffrage amendment and the Democratic Party's attitude thereto. Even plainer are the personal appeals sent from Democratic leaders of the committee, from members of the cabinet, and from President Wilson himself, to the governors and legislators of those Democratic states where the issue was the closest—appeals printed in last week's Suffragist.

But all this is of no worth to the women who are relying upon complete ratification in time to take part in the Autumn elections—of no worth whatever unless it really brings results, unless the action of Georgia and Alabama is made good elsewhere.

States Still on the Ratification Firing Line

THE following letter came to the executive office of the National Woman's Party, relative to th ework in Utah, where a special session has been asked, since the legislature had its regular session there in January, and does not meet again for two years. The letter is from United States Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, who was a friend of the suffrage amendment while it was yet before Congress, and whose word in behalf of the special session in his state is expected to have weight there.

"United States Senate,
"Committee on Public Lands,
"Reed Smooth, Utah, Chairman.
"July 17, 1919.

"Miss Alice Paul, Chairman
"National Woman's Party,
"14 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

"Dear Miss Paul:

"I note from the issue of The Suffragist of July 12 that some eleven states have ratified the Susan B. Anthony amendment, which, when ratified by a sufficient number of states, will permit women to vote generally throughout the United States.

"There is no question as to the urgent necessity for ratification by extra session this

summer, in order that women may register and vote this fall in important municipal elections, and next year in state and municipal elections. The need for extra sessions of state legislatures is all the more pressing, because so many legislatures do not meet in regular session until 1921. If ratification is postponed until it comes up at regular legislative sessions, women will not be permitted in many of the states to exercise the ballot at the next Presidential election.

"I assure you that I am heartily in favor of extra sessions of the legislature in all states where they can possibly be held this summer, and if I can do anything to assist in securing an extra session of the legislature of my own home state of Utah, it will give me pleasure. Utah, in fact, should be especially ready to perform the service of ratification in time to be of material help to women voters, for the reason that, while Utah shared with Wyoming the honor of initiating suffrage in the United States, Utah is entitled to the first honors, since women first voted in Utah, although the vote was authorized a few months earlier in Wyoming than in Utah for a restricted class of school elections.

"The suffrage idea from its first mountain home is indeed spreading to both sea-coasts, and to the nation's ends. I trust that the necessary votes of ratification will be obtained this summer.

"With best wishes, I remain,

"Yours truly,

(Signed) "Reed Smoot."

ANOTHER state where the calling of a special session now seems more hopeful is California. It is thought that Governor Stephens has grown more disposed toward this needed and strongly urged procedure, and that the necessary order from him may before long be forthcoming. Miss Vivian Pierce, who has been acting as organizer for the campaign work in California since the United States submitted the amendment in June, left California shortly after the arrival of Mrs. William Kent from Washington, and has gone to Portland, Oregon.

Numbers of requests for a special session and immediate ratification have gone to the Governor of Oregon since the Oregon legislature does not meet regularly until 1921, and Miss Pierce has gone as National Organizer for the Woman's Party to direct the campaign there. Mrs. Kent, with the ratification committee formed by Miss Pierce, will continue the work in California, which, it is hoped, will come to a speedy and successful issue. Governor Olcott, of Oregon, states that if a majority of the members of the legislature request a special session and agree to forego their mileage, he is willing to issue the call.

Among the requests which have gone to the Governor is one recent telegram from Congressman McArthur, of Oregon, a copy of which follows:

"July 26, 1919.

"Governor Ben. W. Olcott,

"Salem, Oregon.

"I earnestly request that you call a special session of Oregon legislature for purpose of ratifying national suffrage amendment. I have wired President of Senate and Speaker of House asking them to use their influence with members to waive salary and mileage. Oregon has been a leader in all progressive matters and would like to see state ratify amendment earliest possible date.

"C. N. McArthur."

Official
26412-K

MRS. Jessie Hardy MacKaye has gone to Delaware as a Woman's Party Organizer, to open a campaign for a special session there. With the assistance of Miss Katherine Hilles, a daughter of Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, Member of the National Executive Council of the Woman's Party and Chairman of the Delaware branch, at present abroad, Mrs. MacKaye has begun her canvass of the state in order to ascertain the sentiment of the legislators for and against the special session before approaching the Governor upon the matter. She reports that every one of influence in the state so far interviewed seems disposed to do everything that they can for the woman's campaign, and that prospects are very good indeed for Delaware shortly falling into the column of ratification states.

A state-wide conference of women interested in ratification takes place at the Hotel Dupont on Monday, July 28, Mrs. Fred. Bringhurst, State Vice-Chairman, presiding, at which it is expected that resolutions to the Governor will be drawn up and sent to him, together with the completed poll of the legislature upon the question.

MISS Betty Gram, national organizer, who was assisting in the Alabama and Georgia campaigns, has gone to Virginia to lend her aid to the work which is progressing there under the direction of Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith, Virginia State Chairman. Miss Gram joins Miss Anita Pollitzer, National Organizer, who has already undertaken the canvass of the state on behalf of ratification.

EFFORTS are being made in Minnesota to speed up ratification in that state. As the Minnesota legislature does not meet in regular session until 1921 it will be necessary for the Governor to call a special session if Minnesota is to have a voice in ratification. Mrs. Bertha Moller, organizer for the state ratification committee of the National Woman's Party, is arranging a deputation to the Governor during the first part of August, when he will be at the state capital.

Among other requests for a special session which have been made, the most recent is a resolution passed by the Minnesota Federation of Labor in convention at New Ulm on July 22, demanding that the Governor call a special session of the legislature at once to ratify the suffrage amendment.

The Minnesota Branch of the Woman's Party, of which Mrs. A. R. Colvin is chairman, is to hold its annual conference on the eighth of August in Minneapolis. If the Governor has not by that time issued a call for a special session, they will take further action in the matter.

THE campaign is still being waged with unremitting energy in Maryland in the attempt to bring the Governor to the point of calling a special session. Maryland is one of those Southern Democratic states in which the Democratic Party yet has an opportunity to redeem itself in its hitherto hostile attitude toward the great mass of new voters who will go to the polls for the Presidential elections of next year. Is Maryland going to follow the lead of Georgia and Alabama and confirm the stand of the Democrats in those states upon this question—regardless of the appeal of Party leaders for the support of the amendment?

Mrs. Donald Hooker, Chairman of the Maryland Branch, Mrs. Robert Walker and Mrs. T. W. Forbes, are constantly active in the work there, while Miss Mary Dubrow and Miss Julia Emory, national organizers, are working in and around Baltimore. Mrs. Abbie Scott Baker, Political Chairman of the National Woman's Party, was in Baltimore last week to confer with leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties in Maryland with regard to the situation.

In the face of the poll of the legislators the majority of whom have registered themselves in favor of a special session to ratify, the Democratic state leaders still refuse to call the special session, and even come out in the press with the threat of possible opposition to ratification in any event.

The Republicans, however, realize the political significance of ratification and have announced that they will incorporate adoption of the amendment in their platform. The statement given to the press also states that the Republican candidates are prepared to stand firmly by their platform on this issue and will fight hard to ratify the federal amendment.

GOVERNOR Bartlett, of New Hampshire, has telegraphed the Governors of all states asking whether the states in question had adopted or would afford an opportunity for the adoption of the Woman Suffrage Amendment before the next Presidential election. He said he would call the New Hampshire legislature into special session for that purpose if a sufficient number of states would afford a similar opportunity.

Comments of the Press

Up to You, Governor Beeckman

UNLESS Governor Beeckman is really opposed to votes for women, as some say he is, he can no longer delay the call for a special session of the Legislature to pass the Anthony suffrage amendment. The Democrats of Rhode Island, speaking through their official State Committee, have informed Governor Beeckman that should he call a special session they will not bring up any controversial question to embarrass him or his party. By a unanimous vote they have asked Mr. Beeckman to place Rhode Island, without delay, in the list of states that stand for the civil liberty of women. Our example will help win the fight in other sections of the country.

Governor Beeckham will fail of his plain duty should he decline to act at once upon this vital question. Behind the call to him is practically all the citizenship of the state. The small cost of a special session can, if necessary, be met from private funds. The work can be done inside of an hour. The New York Legislature, called in special session by a courageous Governor, passed a concurrent resolution for the woman suffrage amendment in one hour and twelve minutes. Rhode Island can do as well, if not better, but it cannot do anything unless Governor Beeckham issues a call for a special session of the Legislature.—Providence, Rhode Island News, July 14, 1919.

"The Topic of the Day in Montgomery"

ALTHOUGH indications pointed Monday morning to Montgomery's having one of the hottest days of the season before her, senators and members of the house began arriving at the capitol early. Nothing was talked about among them or the idlers lounging around in the cool corridors of the building, but the pending action of the legislature on the woman's suffrage question. Guesses were flying thick and fast as to what would be the outcome, and those favoring the adoption of the amendment seemed to be in the lead and gaining strength. The stories carried in the Journal Sunday morning were freely discussed and by some admitted to have had a wonderful effect. Many of the legislators are now taking a second thought on the subject and are getting word from home which indicates a great change is coming over the people in many cases. The rural districts are beginning to see the falsity of the claims of the antis as to the wide opening of the gates to the polls and are modifying their opinions and are so expressing them to their representatives in letters and telegrams, many of which have been received, it is said.—Montgomery, Ala., Journal, July 14, 1919.

Georgia Says "The Party Involved"

IN the face of earnest counsel by national leaders of the Democratic Party, the Democrats composing the Georgia legislature can have no excuse for deliberately throwing an obstacle in the way of their party's success in the Presidential election of 1920.

Georgia stands out, as the foremost rock-ribbed Democratic state of the union.

For it, of all states, to flaunt defiance in the face of the national party organization—and, premeditatedly, "with malice aforethought"—do a thing which will prove disastrous to the party, and which will lose it a half dozen states, is unthinkable.

The very fact that the general assembly is hesitating in its previous mad effort to rush an adverse vote on the amendment indicates that it is at last listening to reason.

If anything were to be gained by bulling this issue through it would be a different matter. If there were necessity for an immediate showdown to reveal just how the Georgia general assembly stands on the question of woman suffrage, it would be a different thing. If adverse action by this legislature were necessary to forestall national enfranchisement of women the opponents of suffrage in our legislature, would, perhaps, be justified in hastening to place the state on record.

The President of the United States, the attorney general, the secretary of the navy and the chairman of the National Democratic Party organization have all united in urging the Democratic states of the South not to embarrass the party by forcing adverse action at this time upon the pending amendment.

Can such appeals be ignored by loyal Democrats?

Such action, while it cannot possibly defeat the amendment nationally, would mean the loss of several doubtful states to the democracy, and perhaps will make impossible democratic success in 1920.

The national leaders who have appealed to the southern states to move with prudence and caution for the sake of party welfare nationally, know what they are talking about. They are in position to judge the situation and to weigh consequences. They are not looking at the question from a local viewpoint, but from the standpoint of leaders who are in intimate touch with the national situation.

Surely the Georgia legislature will listen to such men, and will heed their warning!—The Georgia Constitution, July 15, 1919.

Justice Advanced

THE United States Senate, yesterday, by a vote of more than two to one subscribed to the theory that Abraham Lincoln included women among the "people" of whom he said this is a government of, for and, more particularly, by. That is to say the Senate passed, by a vote of 56 to 25, or counting pairs, 66 to 30, the Susan B. Anthony amendment to the federal constitution. When the amendment has been ratified by 36 of the 48 states it will become a law and the right to vote shall no longer be abridged by the United States or any state because of sex.

The strongest possible argument in favor of the early ratification of this amendment lies in the fact that women have already the right to vote either for president or for all officers in 29 of the 36 states. In the states that elect more than 300 of the 541 members of the electoral college women will vote with the men in the next election. More than a dozen millions of women in the United States already are enfranchised and there is no sound or logical reason why the women of New York, of Rhode Island, of Maine, or California should possess any rights of franchise in the election of Presidents, Senators and Congressmen, that are denied to the women of Connecticut. Abraham Lincoln declared that the nation could not exist half slave and half free; it ought not to exist with half the women enfranchised and the other half lacking the privilege of exercising that right.

Foes of suffrage are now pinning their faith on the hope that 13 states can be cajoled into or prevailed upon to reject the amendment. If it happens we shall have another of the instances of government by minority evident in the last Congress, when the Anthony amendment failed of passage though accepted by the House by more than two-thirds majority and though lacking only one vote of a two-thirds majority in the Senate and though favored by the national organizations of both great political parties.

With 29 of the necessary 36 states already committed to woman suffrage so far as the presidency is concerned, The Post declines to believe that the necessary seven additional states will not be forthcoming and it has every hope that Connecticut will be one of them. It would be a lamentable injustice and an egregious blunder if the practical politicians of 13 states should be able to defeat this reform and it is the duty of those who believe in it, who believe in a square deal and in full justice to all, regardless of sex, to see to it that they do not accomplish it.

The Anthony amendment has been before Congress for 50 years. Many of its earliest advocates have gone to their reward. But the women who followed them, who have persevered against heavy odds and turned a minority into a majority and then into the necessary two-thirds, are deserving of warmest praise. They have displayed the best of qualifications for citizenship and it ought to be conferred upon them at the earliest opportunity.—Hartford (Conn.) Post, June 5, 1919.

Womanhood Glorified

FOR fifty years women have knocked at the national ballot box in this country for admittance, but in vain. The battle has been long and strenuous, but gradually the opposition, in the face of the undaunted courage and persistency of women who knew no such word as fail, faded until the sun of victory at last is shining brilliantly over the hills. State by state they fought, winning here and there, at the same time keeping their hands on congress and each year increasing their chances in a national sense. Like every reform, the proposition has had bitter opposition.

In the years to come, when equal suffrage is such a settled policy as not to cause a comment, people will wonder how it happened that it was postponed so long. The principle has always been right. There never was a sound reason for keeping women away from the ballot box. The Index knows there are many who will dispute this assertion now, but not one where there were hundreds a few years ago, and a few years hence the one will be lacking.

Despite our pessimistic tendencies, sometimes, we must all admit that gradually the old world grows better; that little by little she moves upgrade toward a clearer and purer skyline. And we all must further admit that one of the greatest powers at the throttle of advance is the increasing influence of womankind in public affairs—the application of her finer preception, her more refined nature, her inherent disposition to always keep her eyes Heavenward and battle fearlessly for right—"for God and Home and Native Land." And there is inspiration in the thought that the greatest power in the work of moving the world forward and making it a better place in which to live, has had to battle mankind from the time when she was his veritable slave, menially and every other way, up through the ages, gaining a little ground here and there along various lines of endeavor, until today in most civilized countries she is the acknowledge superior of man in all the avenues of morality and on all lines of uplift. And wherever this is true, women are reaching out to lift up their sex, in such countries as China and Japan, where womankind is yet considered scarcely better than the animals of the field—using the influence of their increasing power to an advantage which ultimately will break the shackles from the wrists of enslaved womanhood the round world over.— St. Bernardio, (Calif.,) Index, May 22, 1919.

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California Should Not Delay the Ratification of Suffrage

GOVERNOR Stephens' expedient for handling the question of a special session of the legislature for the ratification of the suffrage amendment may be very clever from a penny-pinching standpoint, but it entirely overlooks a certain progressive sentiment which we Californians should—and DO—feel about our place in the list of states ratifying this measure of justice to women.

Our state was among the first to give women the vote within the state's borders. Governor Stephens' "pledge" proposal bids fair to make California among the very last states to ratify the federal amendment. By waiting for a long list of other states to announce their intention of considering the amendment we are going to put California among the tail-enders in considering it.

Even were we to ratify the amendment today we could only find a place somewhere among the first twelve states to approve it. In eight states special sessions already have been called for this express purpose—New York, Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Ohio, Iowa, Maine and Colorado. As it stands even now, then, California is too far down in the list to suit the progressive sentiment of Californians to be leaders in the indorsement of what, after all, is only simple justice.

Surely we cannot hang back now, pledges or no pledges from other state Governors. California must act for itself alone, if even that were necessary, so long as we are sure, as we are in this instance, that we are RIGHT.

Let the Governor call the legislature of California into special session without any previous word from any other state. Let us influence other states by our example. And let us get as near as possible at the head of the list of states making the federal suffrage amendment effective. We are not a laggard state, but a leader state.—San Francisco Examiner, July 16, 1919.

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Mrs. R. L. Andrea, S. C.	1	Miss Alice Henry, Ill.	1
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Miss C. E. Lang, D. C.	1	South Carolina Branch	2
		Renewals	35
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Total collected by National Headquarters July 18, Through July 23	788.74
Previously acknowledged in The Suffragist	441,122.08
Total collected through July 23, 1919	441,910.82

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Mrs. Henry Atwater	5.00
Mrs. L. M. Cooper	10.00
Miss Pischel	5.00
Miss Agnes Potter	10.00
Mrs. Fanny U. West	10.00
Mrs. Mary Colburn	25.00
Total	105.00
Total collected by Branches	2,726.89
Previously acknowledged in The Suffragist	90,513.41
Total collected by Branches through July 23, 1919	93,240.30
Grand Total	535,151.12
Deduction: Transferred from Branch Headquarters to National Headquarters	5,757.00
Grand Net Total	$529,394.12

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